AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, cancel Claims 3 and 4, and add new Claim 5, as set forth below. The claim listing below replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An exhaust gas purification apparatus of an engine comprising:

a reduction catalyst that is arranged in an exhaust system of the engine, for reducing and purifying nitrogen oxide in an exhaust gas using a reducing agent; and

a reducing agent supplier provided with an injection nozzle having a tip end portion, which extends towards a downstream side in an exhaust gas passage of said exhaust system, substantially parallel with an exhaust gas flow direction, for supplying said reducing agent to an exhaust gas on an upstream side of said reduction catalyst;

wherein an exhaust gas downstream side end portion of the tip end portion of said injection nozzle has an exhaust gas downstream side end surface that is blocked, and a ring shaped protruding ridge is provided on an outer peripheral surface of the exhaust gas downstream side end portion and is arranged to convexly protrude in an outward direction substantially orthogonal to a central axis of said injection nozzle, wherein said ring shaped protruding ridge is formed in a shape that is tapered towards an outer peripheral surface of an outer end portion thereof ~~said protruding ridge portion being formed~~ with at least one injection hole in the outer peripheral surface for ejecting said reducing agent in the ~~an~~ outward direction from the central axis ~~an axial center~~ of ~~the~~ said injection nozzle.

2. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas purification apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ring shaped protruding ridge ~~portion~~ is formed with a plurality of said injection

holes that are drilled in a radial pattern in the ~~an~~ outward direction from the central axis ~~axial center~~ of the tip end portion of said injection nozzle.

3 and 4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) The exhaust gas purification apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ring shaped protruding ridge is formed in a shape that is tapered on both sides of the outer end portion of said ring shaped protruding ridge thereby defining a narrow flat surface extending around a circumferential direction on the outer peripheral surface of the ring shaped protruding ridge, said narrow flat surface being formed with said at least one injection hole for ejecting said reducing agent.